



The GUNFIGHTER

Volume 16, Number 31

366th Fighter Wing, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho

Aug. 13, 2004



Photo by Staff Sgt. Chris Campbell

Blowin' it up

Airman 1st Class Brittnie Hale and Staff Sgt. Amber Orem, 366th Equipment Maintenance Squadron munitions flight, check the rollers and dollies of a rail assembly. The duo put together a munitions assembly conveyer during a training competition held here Aug. 6. (See page 5 for more photos.)

Tops in Blue to come to Mountain Home



Courtesy photo

Tops In Blue, the Air Force's traveling entertainment group, performs for troops at a forward deployed location. Mountain Home Air Force Base currently has about 500 Gunfighters who are forward-deployed to various locations throughout Southwest Asia.

The U.S. Air Force's Tops In Blue is offering a free night of family entertainment Aug. 25 at 8 p.m. at Mountain Home High School Tiger Field.

As one of the oldest and most widely traveled entertainment groups of its kind, Tops In Blue is an all active-duty special unit made up of amateur performers selected for their entertainment abilities.

Their 2004 edition, "Musicology," is a medley of songs designed to captivate an audience of all generations.

Through the use of today's technology, Tops in Blue plans to present a fun-filled, action-packed performance, highlighting hits with their own spin.

In this year's show, they'll create their very own musical formula, mixing the swing of Brian Selzer Orchestra, the groove of Chaka Kahn, the harmonies of the Commodores, the energy of Madonna, the blues of Ray Charles,

the country of Martina McBride, the emotion of Celine Dion and the craziness of the Blues Brothers, combined with a stage setting of lighting and choreography.

As a bonus, one lucky fan will win a 1000-minute AT&T calling card during the show.

Additionally, fans can also enter the AT&T Million Minute Giveaway Promotion while they are waiting in line. Entry forms will be provided to those who request them, and staff members will collect the entries and consolidate them into boxes just before the show.

After celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2003, Tops In Blue '04 keeps up its whirlwind tour schedule by performing more than 150 shows at 130 locations, including entertaining forward-deployed troops in various locations in Iraq, Qatar, Afghanistan and Kuwait.

Since their first world tour in 1953, the group has also performed on film, produced albums and appeared on national television with such legends as Ed Sullivan, Bob Hope, Alabama, Barbara Mandrell, BOYZ II MEN and many others.

Since 1996, their mission led them through hostile locations to build morale for the nation's joint military services supporting Operation Joint Endeavor in Bosnia-Herzegovina and contingency bases in Croatia, Hungary, Italy and Turkey.

In 2002, Tops In Blue continued their expeditionary mission by being among the first entertainment groups to travel into the most forward locations in Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Qatar and Kyrgyzstan.

For more information about Tops in Blue or their tour schedule, contact the base community center at 828-2246 or visit the official Tops in Blue Web site at www.topsinblue.com. (Courtesy of U.S. Air Force Services.)

Newsline

Supplemental promotions

Congratulations to Tech Sgt. select Aaron Ross, Master Sgt. select Kenneth Hobby, and Senior Master Sgt. selects Kevin Jamros, Eric Zimmerman and Robert Pulkinen.

High school soccer practice

Soccer practice for those interested in playing high school soccer is scheduled for today. Girls will practice at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. and boys at 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. For more information, call the girls' head coach, Mr. Carlos Correa, at 599-0357 or the boys' head coach, Staff Sgt. Andrew Kerr, at 590-3288.

BSU Broncos

The base exchange is hosting the Boise State University Broncos Thursday at 2 p.m. Athletes from each sports team to include cheerleading, football, basketball, soccer and gymnastics will be available to sign autographs. The Mane Line dance team is also scheduled to perform along with the school mascots, Buster Bronco and Baby Bronco.

Gunfighter Attic

The Gunfighter Attic is collecting basic supplies like pens, pencils, paper, backpacks and lunch box items to help families offset the cost of going back to school. People are encouraged to drop off donations to the attic or one of the designated areas on base.

The Gunfighter Attic is open Monday from 3 to 6 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon, except holidays and down days. People who need assistance or know a family that could benefit from this project should contact the Gunfighter Attic at 828-4735 or a first sergeant.

Vehicle operations hours change

Due to low manning, the base vehicle operations facility has changed its hours of operation until Nov. 1. The new hours are Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Vehicle operation drivers no longer support transportation requests of less than five personnel to and from the Boise Airport. Units may request vehicles to transport their own personnel going on or returning from temporary duty assignments to and from the Boise Airport.

For more information, call vehicle dispatch 828-2215 or Mr. Gary McElheney at 828-1020.

Base speed limit changes

The speed limit along Aardvark Avenue between Liberator and Desert Streets has been lowered to 20 mph. Motorists are advised to be mindful of pedestrians and obey posted speed limits.

Change to base instruction

According to Mountain Home Air Force Base Instruction 31-204, Gunfighters operating motorcycles will now be required to wear a bright-colored upper garment. The garment must be a vest similar to those which construction workers wear, but can also be a long sleeve shirt or jacket if they are of the same high-visibility colors.

During hours of darkness the upper garment must have reflective material visible, at minimum, from the rear. Safety reflective belts do not fulfill this requirement.

The new regulation is in effect now, but the 366th Security Forces is allowing for a 30-day grace period before strict enforcement.

For more information contact Master Sgt. Marty Clifton, Gunfighter Motorcycle Advisory Council at 828-1104 or 366th SFS, at 828-2256.

Commander’s Hotline

This Hotline is your direct line to me.
It’s your opportunity to make Mountain Home AFB a better place to live and work.
I review every response to Hotline questions, but functional experts prepare most responses.
If possible, you should first contact the organization responsible for the problem or function.
Your first sergeants, commanders and agency chiefs want to help, so please let them try.
If you do not know how to proceed or if you have already tried your chain of command, then do not hesitate to contact the Hotline at 828-6262 or CommandersHotline@mountainhome.af.mil.
Not all Hotlines are published, but if you leave your name and phone number or e-mail address, I will make sure you get a reply.



Col. Charles Shugg

Col. Charles Shugg
366th Fighter Wing commander

Last DUI:

(As of noon Wednesday)

366th Civil Engineer Squadron

Days without a DUI:

25

AADD made 7 saves in August, 197 in 2004

Commander shares three A’s of being good leader

By Maj. Aaron Meadows
366th Communications Squadron commander

I’ve been in command of the 366th Communications Squadron for exactly four weeks, and I can already tell it’s going to be the best assignment of my career.
For the first time, I get to directly apply some of the leadership lessons that I’ve learned over the last 14 years.
Although there are countless books and videos on the subject of leadership and an equal number of different styles and methods, I’d like to share my thoughts on what I call the three A’s.
Authenticity
In my opinion, the best leaders are ones that are authentic. They simply are who they are.
They don’t pretend to put on a different face or act a different way when they’re put into a leadership position. They are confident in themselves, yet understand their own weaknesses.
In Mr. Bill George’s book, “Authentic Leadership,” he wrote, “Authentic leaders lead with purpose, meaning, and values. They build enduring relationships with people. Others follow them because they know where they stand.”
I think Mr. George hit the nail on the head because I

have witnessed this positive leadership style and seen firsthand how individuals respond when their leader is truly genuine.
Accessibility
Many of my former commanders have claimed to have “an open-door policy,” yet it was darn near impossible to ever get past the secretary or executive officer to discuss something.
While having a gate-keeper is important, especially the higher in rank you go, I think being accessible is probably one of the most effective leadership traits to display.
I’m lucky to have an office door that opens directly into a hallway that many people travel. One of the things I did on my first day on the job was open that door and keep it open as much as possible. Sure, I get interrupted and I’m not quite as efficient as I could be, but to me, it sends a strong signal that I’m accessible to listen and understand what’s going on in the unit.
It’s a fine balance between enforcing the chain of command and being directly accessible, but I think being an accessible leader shows the troops that you truly care about them. And if your subordinates feel like they’re cared for, they will perform miracles in accomplishing the mission.
Approachability
The approachability leadership trait is all about getting

out from behind the desk and walking around.
You’ll often hear the phrase, “leadership by walking around,” yet too few of us take time to do just that. An approachable leader works hard at getting out, learning people’s names and expressing a genuine interest in what’s going on in their subordinate’s lives.
By creating an atmosphere of trust, I firmly believe people are more motivated and they work harder to meet the goals of the unit.
While the formal recognition programs we have in place are vitally important, I think an approachable leader that expresses appreciation for a job well done can have more impact than a trophy or award plaque.
Being authentic, accessible and approachable are three leadership traits that I’ve tried to incorporate into my personal leadership toolkit. But you don’t have to be a squadron commander to apply these principles; I urge supervisors and leaders at all levels to think about your own leadership philosophy and consider implementing some of these ideas.
While my three A’s of leadership are not all encompassing, I hope you’ll consider them as you continue to develop your own leadership style. In closing, I offer a quote from Ralph Waldo Emerson: “Trust men and they will be true to you; treat them greatly and they will show themselves great.”



Editorial staff

Col. Charles Shugg
Commander

Capt. Kelly Cahalan
Chief, Public Affairs

1st Lt. Lucas Ritter
Chief, Internal Information

SrA. Chawntain Sloan
Editor

The Gunfighter is published by Mountain Home News, 195 South 3rd East St., Mountain Home, Idaho, 83647, 587-3331, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive contract with the 366th Fighter Wing.
This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of **The Gunfighter** are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.
The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or Mountain Home News of the products or services advertised.
Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.
Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, 828-6800.

All photographs are Air Force photographs unless indicated.
Deadlines: All articles intended for publication in **The Gunfighter** must be submitted to the 366th Fighter Wing, Public Affairs Office, 366 Gunfighter Ave., Bldg. 512, Suite 314, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho 83648, by noon Friday. All submissions will be considered for publication based on news value and timeliness. Every article and photograph will be edited for accuracy, clarity, brevity and appropriateness. All articles will be edited to conform with the AP Stylebook and Libel Manual as stipulated in Air Force Instruction 35-101.
Coverage: Coverage of upcoming events should be arranged in advance by calling the public affairs office at 828-6800 or by sending an electronic message to pa.news@mountainhome.af.mil.
Classified Ads: Free classified advertisements of a non-commercial nature are published in **The Gunfighter** on a space-available basis. Free advertising is limited to Air Force people (active and retired), Department of Defense civilian employees and their family members. Ad forms are available in Bldg. 512. Deadline for free classified advertisements is 5 p.m. Monday.

Rack ‘em up – Annual Gunfighter winners

Welcome to Gunfighter Country — home of a winning attitude!



Air Force Awards 5



Air Combat Command Awards 22



12th Air Force 3

New procedures to ensure absentee ballots count

Tech. Sgt. Patrick Murphy
Air Combat Command Public Affairs

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (AFPN) -- With the 2004 elections fast approaching, the handling of absentee ballots from overseas servicemembers is undergoing intense scrutiny.

Air Combat Command’s 82nd Communications Support Squadron postal flight is among the many organizations working to make sure these ballots arrive in the hands of election officials in time to be counted.

ACC is the managing authority for the U.S Central Command area of responsibility, where a majority of U.S. military forces are currently deployed. The 82nd CSS here is one of three postal units within the Air Force command structure trusted with management of mail. The 2nd Air Postal Squadron located at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, and the Pacific Air Forces Air Postal Squadron at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, are the other two.

“Military absentee ballots from overseas became a huge focal point in the 2000 presidential election,” said Joseph Amaro, 82nd CSS postal operations transportation manager. “That election made us take a good, hard look at how the ballots were handled. New procedures are in place, and we believe the military overseas absentee ballots will be delivered as quickly as possible with very little controversy.”

U.S. Postal Service officials have been working with the Military Postal Service Agency to improve the process, said 1st Lt. Scott Roberts, deputy flight commander of 82nd CSS postal operations flight. An Internet voting program known as the Secure Electronic Registration and Voting Experiment, or SERVE, had been proposed as a possible alternative. However, concerns that computer hackers could break into the system and effectively corrupt the votes forced Department of Defense officials to

halt plans to use SERVE for this election. Officials still plan to continue researching Internet voting.

For now, a low-tech alternative is in place. USPS officials said they have asked their local postmasters to contact voting officials in counties and jurisdictions responsible for mailing ballots and to whom completed ballots are returned. They are asking those officials to pull out the military ballots.

Local postmasters then will take those ballots and sort them for three different USPS gateway cities: San Francisco for servicemembers based around the Pacific, including west coast Marines and Sailors deployed to the USCENTCOM area of responsibility; New York for Europe and the Middle East; and Miami for Central and South America, and a few units in the USCENTCOM area of responsibility. The balloting materials will go to these gateway cities via the USPS Express Mail service. Once at the USPS gateway facilities, postal managers will count the Express Mail pieces and sort them for the different military ZIP codes.

All the balloting materials will be sorted first into specially marked mail trays and handed over to the airlines, officials said. Airline workers will identify the trays that have voting materials, and those trays will again receive priority treatment. In theater, military postal workers can easily identify specially marked trays to ensure balloting materials are given priority as they travel to the servicemembers.

Once a servicemember votes, the reverse process is the same – balloting materials receive priority, and ballots are placed in specially marked trays, officials said. One change from the 2000 election is that when ballots are received at the APO or FPO, mail clerks will sort all voting material and make it their highest priority for shipment back to the United States. Previously, voting material was treated as standard letter-class mail.

Military clerks will postmark the ballots with the date

received in the military post office. This date is critical for election officials to be able to count the ballots. Once the ballots arrive from overseas at the USPS gateways, mail handlers will place them into the normal mail flow in the United States that allows for a three-day delivery.

USPS officials said they again will segregate balloting materials and use Express Mail to send ballots back to county officials beginning Oct. 30. Although Election Day is Nov. 2, these special-handling procedures will continue through Nov. 8. Despite this special attention, some ballots received after Election Day may not be counted, since different jurisdictions have different voting requirements. This is beyond military control as each state establishes its requirements independently.

The Federal Voting Assistance Program, which is managed by the Department of Defense, has established recommended mailing dates to help ensure the overseas military absentee ballots are counted. The final recommended date for requesting ballots is Sunday.

“The starting point for the whole process is the servicemember registering to vote and requesting an absentee ballot,” said Michael Thuber, 82nd CSS postal operations plans and logistics manager.

DOD and USPS officials are designating the week beginning Oct. 11 as Overseas Voting Week. For those assigned to operations Iraqi Freedom or Enduring Freedom, the recommended date to return ballots is Oct. 11. For military members at other overseas locations, the recommended return date is Oct. 15.

“If people who wish to vote send their absentee ballots before these deadlines, the military and USPS will do all they can to ensure the ballots get to the county election officials before election day,” Lieutenant Roberts said. “If you work with the plan and meet the deadlines, those votes will definitely be counted.” *(Courtesy of ACC News Service. American Forces Press Service and Air Force Print News contributed to this article.)*

101 Critical Days: Yard work safety tips

(Editor’s Note: This article is the part of a series of articles compiled by the Gunfighter safety office in support of the 101 Critical Days of Summer campaign.)

Green lawns, brightly colored flowers and garden-fresh fruits and vegetables – these are all signs of a backyard bonanza in full bloom.

However, people should be on guard while tending their precious garden plots this summer, as there are many hazards associated with yard work and gardening.

The following are some safety tips to consider before doing yard work or gardening:

- Think small; do not try to tackle too much at once.
- Dress for safety. Wear comfortable, well-fitting clothing; do not wear loose garments or dangling jewelry that may tangle with power equipment.
- Sturdy, heavy-soled shoes can protect feet while pushing a spade or from being

injured by nails or broken glass. Safety shoes are even better because their metal toecaps can cushion the blow of a heavy object dropped on the foot.

- Work gloves can protect hands from scratches, cuts, blisters and irritations caused by chemicals.
- Safety glasses can protect eyes from harm while mowing, edging, trimming trees, chipping patio stones or using chemical sprays or dusts.
- Pesticides and herbicides can be toxic, so read the container label and follow manufacturer recommendations. Also, always stay upwind of the area being sprayed, and do not smoke or eat until hands have been washed thoroughly.
- Garden tools should be well designed, sturdy and kept in good condition, with cutting edges sharp and rolling equipment lubricated for easy pushing. In addition, use the right tool for the job; improvising or using a tool for other than its intended pur-

pose increases mishap potential.

- Electrical tools like trimmers and edgers can make work easier, but it is also easier to nip a finger or get into trouble with electricity. Extension cords should be the outdoor, heavy-duty type, and power tools should be grounded unless they are double insulated.
- Cords should be protected from damage and never yanked on to disconnect them.
- When a power tool jams or won’t start, unplug the power cord before you try to free the jam or find the trouble.
- Before beginning the chore of grass cutting this summer, take a few moments to review the following mowing safety tips:
 - Ensure that cutting equipment is in good operating condition and has the proper machine guards.
 - Clear area to be mowed of stones and other debris. These can be ejected with great force through the discharge chute.

- Wear eye protection like goggles or safety glasses with side shields or a face shield when operating power mower to protect against the danger of flying rocks, dirt, etc.
- Wear appropriate hearing protection if equipment has been identified as producing hazardous noise levels or for personal comfort.
- Ensure grass is dry before mowing. Wet grass is slippery underfoot and can clog both the discharge chute and blades.
- To avoid potential injury, never clean, adjust or leave the machine without stopping the motor.
- Always watch footing, particularly on slopes. Steer a hand mower across slopes, never up and down in case the machine gets out of control.
- To protect feet, always keep the mower flat on the ground. Never lift, tilt or pull it toward the body, and never raise it to trim the tops of shrubs or hedges.

It's your Future.

VOTE

for it!

Contact your unit Federal Voting Assistance Program representative today!



Staff sergeant selects



366th Aeromedical Dental Squadron

| | | |
|--|-------------------|----------------|
| Edward Belandres | Lara Johansen | Laurie Kidwell |
| 366th Medical Operations Support Squadron | | |
| Mindi Anderson | James Higgins | Lynette Loyd |
| April Paciotti | Christopher Poole | Amanda Ramirez |
| Chri Schlattweiler | Nicholas Webb | |

366th Medical Support Squadron

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Beverly Daniels | Jyllian Foy |
|-----------------|-------------|

366th Civil Engineer Squadron

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Carl Ashcraft | Demetrus Clark | Tyree Glenn |
| William Haynes | Benjamin Jensen | Heber Laing |
| Jamie Mason | Jeremiah Mcclosky | Jason Michael |
| Thomas Snell | Brent Thompson | Bob Tull |

366th Communications Squadron

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Jacob Anderson | Salina Cruz | Christopher Davidson |
| Jeffrey Ellison | Justin Fusco | Eric Goff |
| Kevin Newton | Richard Peck | |

366th Logistics Readiness Squadron

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Karen Basquez | Devin Chidester | Marc Dicker |
| Christopher Farran | Ray Godfrey | Eric Harris |
| Erica Jackson | Joshua Keesler | Skylar Long |
| Rommel Miguel | Lejarey Moten | Edward Mueller |
| Khristian Osorio-Mancilla | Brandy Prude | Garry Prude |
| Rivera Rodriguez | Jeffrey Sabo | Mohamad Sesay |
| Juanita Simon | Heather Smoke | Aaron Spear |
| Christopher Williams | Jeffrey Woodard | |

366th Security Forces Squadron

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Nicholas Allen | Jodi Brown | Shawn Canole |
| Timothy Cox | Antonio Cruz | Joshua Fitch |
| Kimberly King | Jessica Lian | Melvin Parker |
| Cliff Roberts | Eric Sanders | Jerry Tourtillott |
| Jason Walker | | |

366th Services Squadron

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Henesha Edwards | Joseph Immormino | Isabel Salas |
| 366th Maintenance Group | | |
| Christopher Caruso | Jason Howard | James Huffine |
| Christopher Johnson | Micaela Jones | Christopher Mcdougal |
| Daniel Murphy | Laura Yancey | |

366th Operations Support Squadron

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Francis Gilson | Steven Hernandez | Jason Hindberg |
| Regina Lohmann | Garett McClinton | Nathan Musil |
| Joshua Parrish | Deborah Stewart | Michael Sweeney |
| Tony Townsend | Shane Warnicke | |

391st Fighter Squadron

| | | |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Melissa Cook | Alana Fleming | Jeffrey Shields |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|

366th Maintenance Operations Squadron

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Gerard Deleon | William Parker | Laura Wallace |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|

389th Fighter Squadron

Larry Ingersoll

390th Fighter Squadron

Deshawn Walker

726th Air Control Squadron

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Christian Bellenger | Andrew Bolduc | Richard Brand |
| Danielle Flannery | Dannielle Harper | Shaun Herron |
| Antoine Jackson | Rodney Mitchell | Thomas Murphy |
| Stephen Smith | Jennifer Thompson | Ernest Watson |
| Dawn Willie | | |

366th Mission Support Squadron

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Tanya Keith | Christina Kroll | Brandon Mattingly |
| Blanca Trujillo | | |

366th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Jed Abbott | Elaine Arguelles | Ryan Armstrong |
| Jason Basquez | Thomas Bigelow | Rodger Boles |
| Curtis Bourland | Arby Bramlitt | Steven Brown |
| Bryant Clark | Joseph Clark | Jason Cox |
| Audra Currell | Joshua Darting | Gram Devers |
| Chad Easterday | Christopher Eckhardt | Daniel Garbett |
| Daniel Gonzales | Jorge Gonzalez | Damon Harrell |
| David Kahler | Andrew King | Ryan Locklar |
| Bradley McCain | Margaret Mccoy | JW Paff |
| Jeffrey Pallat | James Philpott | Michael Piper |
| Issac Price | Jason Reeder | Kevin Reid |
| Sanabria Rodriguez | Jason Roth | Erika Schwankl |
| Idris Shelby | Brandon Sisk | David Steinborn |
| Brian Stevens | Brandon Thompson | Brian Throneberry |
| Bradford Trent | Daniel Varilek | Daniel Waller |
| Maurice Washington | Tracy Williams | |

366th Component Maintenance Squadron

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Kari Allen | Jeffrey Berglund | Jason Bloomfield |
| Matthew Bradley | Jacob Clanton | Dustin Clutter |
| Aaron Finney | Amy Forte | Keith Gunter |
| John Hannah | Enrique Infante | Kenneth Klaus |
| Benjamin Lee | John Mccarty | Roy Mcminn |
| William Miller | Brandon Moxley | Christopher Putnat |
| Ernesto Ramos | Lori Reagles | Samuel Reniker |
| Amy Reynolds | Michael Robertson | Marcus Salas |
| Stephanie Scheckel | Jeremy Sherwood | Shaun Wilcox |
| Ashley Youngblood | Daniel Youngblood | |

366th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Christopher Adams | Lyle Bankhead | John Boyles |
| Dante Bruton | Kelly Chance | Levi Cornick |
| Michael Driscoll | Jennifer Elizondo | Matthew Gahagan |
| Derek Gilbert | Travis Groth | Daniel Hennigan |
| Robert Herman | Merrion Hough | Marcus Hunter |
| Christine Hurd | Drew Idler | Joseph Johnson |
| Thomas Klosky | Jaclyn Leblanc | Jonathan Lundy |
| Brian Mccoy | Kevin Morse | Nicholas Phelps |
| Mark Purcell | Bryce Raan | Robert Sanborn |
| Jonathan Scharli | Andrea Shepard | Matthew Sleeper |
| Mark Smith | Erik Solosabal | Jason Tulbert |
| Brian Turk | Jessica Urekew | Laren Warnecke |
| Lawrence Yearsley | | |

366th Fighter Wing

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|------------------|
| Paul Davis | Ciri Victoria | Virginia Clutter |
| Peter Zimmnick | | |

Federal Voting Assistance Program representatives

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| 366th Fighter Wing | 366th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron | 366th Communications Squadron |
| Gunfighter legal office | Chief Master Sgt. Albert Green 828-2150 | 1st Lt. Ciro DelaVega 828- 5718 |
| Capt. Joe Manahan 828-2238 | 366th Operations Group | 366th Mission Support Squadron |
| Gunfighter manpower office | 366th Operations Squadron | 2nd Lt. Lisa Ruhmann 828-4007 |
| Master Sgt. Martin Clifton 828-1104 | 1st Lt. Aaron Gehlken 828-4716 | 366th Services Squadron |
| Gunfighter finance office | 389th Fighter Squadron | Master Sgt. Perry Russell 828-2313 |
| Senior Master Sgt. Mike Guyer 828-1260 | 2nd Lt. Nicole Lane 828-2715 | 366th Security Forces Squadron |
| Gunfighter command post | 390th Fighter Squadron | 1st Lt. Toby Kennedy 828-3955 |
| Amn. Jennifer Feliciano 828-5800 | 2nd Lt. Heather Ogletree 828-4051 | 366th Logistics Readiness Squadron |
| 366th Maintenance Group | 391st Fighter Squadron | Senior Airman Heather Smoke 828-1529 |
| 366th Maintenance Operations Squadron | Airman 1st Class Deron Drivers 828-4441 | 366th Contracting Squadron |
| Tech. Sgt. Linda Bauer 828-3933 | 726 Air Control Squadron | Maj. Andrew Sackett 828-3130 |
| 366th Equipment Maintenance Squadron | Staff Sgt. Charles Sherer 828-3406 | 366th Medical Group |
| 2nd Lt. Ronald Marquez 828-3928 | 366th Mission Support Group | Capt. Jeffery O’Keefe 828-7482 |
| 366th Component Maintenance Squadron | 366th Civil Engineer Squadron | Air Expeditionary Force Battlelab |
| 2nd Lt. Alan Condor 828-1582 | 2nd Lt. Douglas Berndsen 828-1334 | Capt. Mike Vigueria 828-3542 |

If you ain't AMMO...

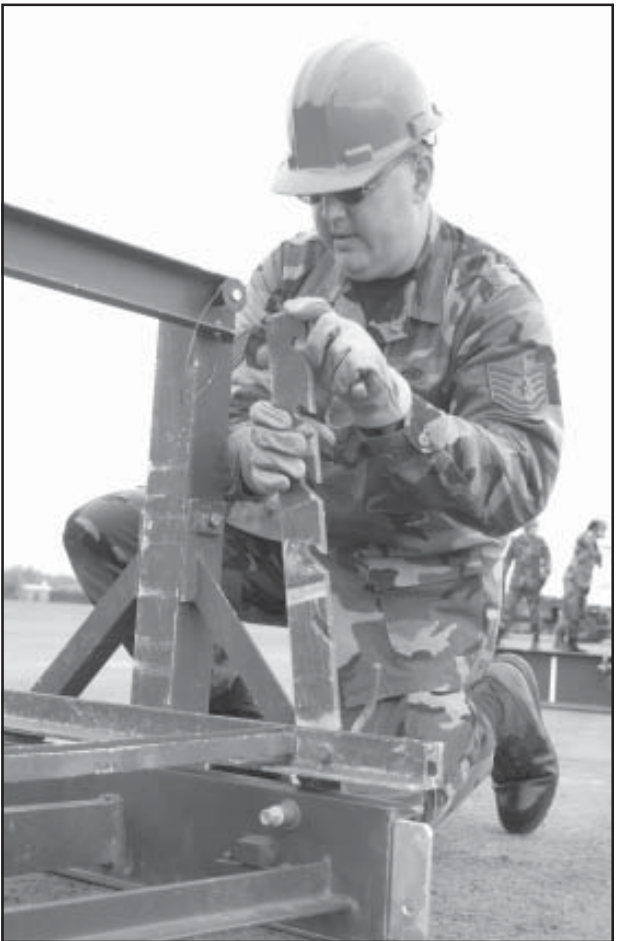


Photos by Staff Sgt. Christopher Campbell

Members of the 366th Equipment Maintenance Squadron Munitions Flight ensure the gantry supports of a munitions assembly conveyer are secure while using a forklift to hoist it.



Members of the 366th Equipment Maintenance Squadron Munitions Flight connect the gantry supports of a munitions assembly conveyer.



Tech. Sgt. Richard Lauric, 366th Equipment Maintenance Squadron Munitions Flight, fastens the ends on a rail assembly for a munitions assembly conveyer.

The Gunfighter

More than meets the eye



Photos by Ms. Kristy Swartz

Senior Airman Chawntain Sloan, Gunfighter editor, and 1st Lt. Lucas Ritter, chief of internal for information Gunfighter public affairs, discuss what stories and photos are going to go where in the next edition of "The Gunfighter."

By Ms. Melissa Guyer
Gunfighter public affairs

Creating any newspaper can be difficult business, and crafting the Gunfighter each week is no different; there are detailed procedures that come along with it.

For Senior Airman Chawntain Sloan, it's a process that she deals with every week. As editor, she is in charge of the base's media outlet, The Gunfighter. And not only does she edit the paper, but she like other public affairs staff members also writes some of the stories that fill the paper every week.

According to Airman Sloan, finding a good story isn't the problem though.

"Anything makes a good story if it's written in the right manner and to the appropriate audience," she said. "Its being able to find the time to write it that is difficult."

In fact, according to her, that's the best part of the job.

"I like going around base, meeting new people and learning about different jobs," she said. "I love seeing how everyone at Mountain Home Air Force Base works together as a team to get the mission done"

According to Airman Sloan, the first step of the newspaper process begins Fridays with finding good news stories and features to fill the paper.

And of course, if there's a story, then there should always be a good picture to follow.

That is where photographers like Staff Sgt. Chris Campbell come into the picture.

"Here in the base multimedia shop, 'The Gunfighter' is our first priority," said Sergeant Campbell. "We take 80 percent of all the pictures that go into the paper."

But Sergeant Campbell said he doesn't see that as a curse but more of a blessing.

"I enjoy taking photos for 'The Gunfighter' because it is one of the only outlets I have as a photographer to be creative," he said.

"It allows me to find interesting shots, shoot different

angles and not have to worry about rules or regulations."

The process doesn't stop with gathering all the photos and stories. The next step in this paper-making process is getting all of the copy together to be edited and formatted. After Airman Sloan has gathered all the news, features, sports, editorials, commentaries, photos and briefs, she has to figure out exactly what is going to go where. To do this, she said she does a rough draft of what the paper is going to look like using specifically formatted sheets of paper called dummies. She likes to call this process "mapping out the paper."

"We try to run everything submitted for that week's paper, and this is how we determine if there's going to be room in the paper for it," she said. "If there's not, we try to make room, and if we can't, we will call the author and let them know."

Next, the three-step editing process begins. First, Airmen Sloan and the public affairs staff have to make sure all the copy follows the editing guidelines published in the "Associated Press Stylebook and Briefing on Media Law," the "Gunfighter Stylebook," and "Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary." Then, they check the stories for content, flow, style, accuracy, credibility and significance. And last but not least, they check for typos, grammatical and spelling errors, which show up in almost every piece of copy.

"The paper is one of the base's most visible products and needs to be up to Gunfighter standards," said 1st Lt. Lucas Ritter, chief of internal information for the PA office. "The paper is not only a reflection of our office, but also a reflection of the wing commander, it is his paper."

After the copy has been scrubbed and the changes have been made by the public affairs staff, the copy makes a trip to see Col. Charles Shugg, 366th Fighter Wing commander. He makes any changes or corrections he feels are appropriate, and then sends the copy back to the editor for her to incorporate the changes and begin designing the paper.

Armed with her "map" and the corrected copy, Airman

Sloan begins the two-day process of designing the pages of "The Gunfighter" using a publishing program utilized throughout the Air Force.

Once the pages have been "laid out," as she calls it, the public affairs staff edits yet again, but this time for visual appeal and any typos, grammatical and spelling errors that might have been overlooked.

"The more times we review the paper the more chances there are of catching errors," said Lieutenant Ritter. "This is human process, so it will never be perfect, but we do our best to catch all of the mistakes."

Finally, Thursday morning and print day. The wing commander reviews the pages one last time as they will look printed, and "The Gunfighter" makes it way to the printer's office where Ms. Joy Martinez takes over.

Ms. Martinez takes the disk on which the entire paper is compiled and transfers each page by computer to an image setter, which is similar to a camera. The image setter captures the images and words from the pages onto film, and then the film is developed much like camera film is developed in a dark room.

"I help to facilitate this process by converting the files on the computer," said Ms. Martinez. "Without the computer we would have to go back to manually laying the paper out and that would take a while."

The film produces negatives, which are reviewed by Airman Sloan and Ms. Martinez for any discrepancies and sent to the press building where the printing process gets complicated.

Mr. Larry Fincher lays the negatives out on a desk and compiles them into sets of four, ordering them by page number and taping each set together. The sets are then given to Mr. James Bailey name, who uses a special light to burn the images and text from the negatives onto metal sheets called plates.

"This process is very tedious," said Mr. Bailey. "It's not as easy as laying the film on the press. We have to make sure the several things match up perfectly. If the plates and film don't match up then the color will be off and the text would be unreadable."

Mr. Bailey sends the plates he created through several different machines until they eventually are transposed onto a large sheet of white metal with green print and images.

Now, on to the last stage – the printing press. Through the printing press, the paper finds its way through an array of colors including black, cyan, magenta and yellow. Then over the top of the press and on to the conveyer belt, where it has already been folded just so. In goes a few ads, then off it goes.

"The Gunfighter" makes this weekly journey until it lands on the doorsteps of its awaiting Gunfighters.

And, every week it takes the same amount of manpower and hard work to produce this informative tool and bring the word of the wing commander to the base.



Ms. Kim Svedrus, film developer for "The Gunfighter," develops the film that contains pages of the next edition of the base paper in a dark-room. Once the film is developed, she prints the negatives, which are needed to burn the images and text of the newspaper onto metal sheets.



Mr. Larry Fincher, lead pressman for “The Gunfighter,” binds the negatives of the base paper in sets of four ordered by page number in preparation for the images and text contained therein to be burned onto metal sheets called plates. The plates are used by the printing press to create the paper.



The printing press shoots out the newspapers, folds them in half, folds them in half again and stacks them. The newspapers then travel the conveyer belt until they are picked up by someone, bundled and shoved into a crate that is delivered to the base.



Staff Sgt. Christopher Campbell, base multimedia center, takes photographs for the next edition of the Gunfighter.